

THE AESTHETICS OF RESISTANCE: A NOVEL



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Duke University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Aesthetics of Resistance: A Novel, Peter Weiss, Fredric Jameson, Joachim Neugroschel, A major literary event, the publication of this masterful translation makes one of the towering works of twentieth-century German literature available to English-speaking readers for the first time. The three-volume novel *The Aesthetics of Resistance* is the magnum opus of Peter Weiss, the internationally renowned dramatist best known for his play *Marat/Sade*. The first volume, presented here in English, was initially published in Germany in 1975; the third and final volume in 1981, just six months before Weiss's death. Spanning from the late 1930s into World War II, this historical novel dramatizes anti-fascist resistance and the rise and fall of proletariat political parties in Europe. Living in Berlin in 1937, the unnamed narrator and his peers--sixteen and seventeen-year-old working-class students--seek ways to express their hatred for the Nazi regime. They meet in museums and galleries, and in their discussions they explore the affinity between political resistance and art, the connection at the heart of Weiss's novel. Weiss suggests that meaning lies in the refusal of humans to renounce resistance, no matter how intense the oppression, and that it is in art that new models of political action and social understanding are to be found. The novel includes extended meditations on paintings, sculpture, and literature. Moving from the Berlin underground to the front lines of the Spanish Civil War and on to other parts of Europe, the story teems with characters, almost all of whom based on historical figures. *The Aesthetics of Resistance* is a masterpiece: one of the truly great works of postwar German literature and an essential resource for understanding twentieth-century German history.



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